times. They were of metal (silver, etc.,) and procured at first from the Tlingit. 301

Hair Dress

Most men cut their hair square across about level with the shoulders. Some cut their hair a little higher, others a little lower. A few wore it full length. If the hair was very long it was tied with a single string at the back of the neck. Men never braided their hair. Almost all people of both sexes cut their hair a little in front square across above the eyes. Young women especially wore their hair in a single braid full length down the back. Older women generally wore their hair in two braids with the ends turned. Some boys and many girls wore their hair loose and hanging down the back or confined it merely with a string tied around at the back of the neck. (Traditions of puberness hair, puberness girls and mourners, etc., are mentioned elsewhere). Young children had their hair full length or almost so behind and cut across above the eyes in front. Most men and women parted their hair in the middle, but a few men parted it there on one side. Many of both sexes painted the parting of their hair red. The hair was never painted and the only kind of grease or oil used on the hair was bear's grease. 302

According to tradition, combs were scarce very long ago but more plentiful later. They were made of wood, bone and antler. Most of them were somewhat square in shape and had only a few teeth, some not more than four. Those made of bone or antler had the most teeth and were probably the best combs. Informants say a common type of comb was like those of the Chilkoots. No Tsimshians combs like those of the plateau tribes were used. The hair was never combed, shaved, singed or burned off. Hair was cut by putting the head down on a small mound heavy resting on something solid. The hair was combed and spread out evenly on it and then cut across with a sharp knife or shell or stone, etc., in the hands of another person. 303 304

Hair cut off was generally burned. If the hair of a young woman of high class was very long, it was sometimes kept by her people and used to make ceremonies or dances, etc., as a kind of wig. Usually the hair was sewed to the lower edge of a head band and hung down full length all around. There was no common 304